

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1 - 19 (cancelled)

Claim 20 (Currently amended) ~~A drive socket for a~~ In a drive socket of a threaded male fastener which is driven by a key wrench driver, the improvement comprising:

a plurality of rounded lobes defined in the drive socket, said plurality of rounded lobes being with contact surfaces positioned about a center of the drive socket of the fastener, said plurality of rounded lobes including contact surfaces;

a plurality of non-contact sections defined in the drive socket, said plurality of non-contact sections being with non-contact surfaces positioned about the center of the fastener and including non-contact surfaces, each non-contact section being located between adjacent rounded lobes and substantially opposite one of the rounded lobes; and

curved recesses defined in the drive socket, said curved recesses being located between the non-contact sections and the adjacent rounded lobes.

Claim 21 (Previously presented) The drive socket of claim 20, wherein each of the rounded lobes projects inward toward the center of the fastener.

Claim 22 (Previously presented) The drive socket of claim 20, wherein each of the recesses forms a substantially smooth transition between one of said rounded lobes and one of said non-contact sections.

Claim 23 (Previously presented) The drive socket of claim 20, wherein the rounded lobes are positioned to provide a first clearance between an apex of each of the

rounded lobes and corresponding surfaces on a key driver inserted into the drive socket, and the non-contact sections are positioned to provide a second clearance between the non-contact sections and corresponding surfaces on the key driver.

Claim 24 (Previously presented) The drive socket of claim 23, wherein:

the first clearance is approximately 0.04 mm (0.0015 inch); and

the second clearance approximately 0.10 mm (0.0038 inch).

Claim 25 (Previously presented) The drive socket of claim 20, wherein the recesses are sized to provide sufficient clearance such that the corners of a key driver inserted into the drive socket do not contact a wall of the drive socket.

Claims 26-29 (Cancelled)